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Numairi to visit U.S.

ARTOUM, May 27 (R). — Sudanese President Numeiri will pay a two-week visit to the United States in June, official sources said here today.

President Numeiri will meet President Ford, Congressional leaders, United Nations Secretary General Dr. Waldheim and Mr. Robert McNamara, President of the World Bank. He is also scheduled to meet a high-ranking American official and business leaders.

It will be President Numeiri's first visit to the United States since he took power in 1969.

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For 6 more months Syria extends mandate of U.N. forces

SYRIA, May 27 (R). — Syria approved another six-month extension for the United Nations Truce Supervision Force on the Golan Heights and said it had no conditions to the extension.

Official spokesman said Syrian President Hafez Assad informed the Security Council of the decision during a meeting this morning.

Waldheim later flew back to New York, where he will take a Security Council meeting tomorrow which will formalize the extension of the mandate on the Heights.

Others here noted Syria's agreement to renew the mandate of the 1,200-man force, which serves as a buffer between Israeli and Syrian forces along the Golan Heights.

After the last six-month mandate expired, Syria insisted a new mandate could only be approved if the Security Council held a special session to debate the Middle East situation.

That debate was held in January. Israel boycotted the meeting because of the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

The Syrian spokesman who announced the agreement said President Assad had attached no conditions to the agreement for the new extension of the force, which was set up in 1974 following the Arab-Israeli war of October 1973.

Before flying back to New York, Mr. Waldheim said he had promised Syrian officials to make every possible effort to achieve a "just and peaceful settlement of the Middle East crisis."

He quoted President Assad as saying the present stalemate in the search for a Middle East peace must be ended.

During a stopover in Belgrade today, Mr. Waldheim also indicated that Syria had attached no conditions to its agreement.

President Assad "put a number of questions to me for clarification, but otherwise the matter did not come up," he told reporters.

Asked whether the latest agreement left him more optimistic about chances for peace in the Middle East, he replied: "I am not a prophet but it is evident that a negotiated settlement is imperative. We in the United Nations will make every effort to achieve such a settlement."

Mr. Waldheim said his next step would be to submit a report on the talks in Syria to the U.N. Security Council.

"They (the Security Council) have to adopt a formal resolution on the extension of the mandate," he said.

The Security Council members are expected to hold private consultations tomorrow on the terms of the formal resolution, to be considered at a meeting beginning at 11.30 a.m.

President Assad's only requirement was said to be a reference in the resolution to the council's 1974 resolution, which called for a peace settlement based on Israeli withdrawal from territories occupied in the 1967 war.

This request was seen here as underlying Syria's wish for some movement on the political side on the Middle East question. There has been no progress on this front in two years and Mr. Waldheim has been seeking ways to get the countries involved back to the Geneva peace table.

Secretary-general Waldheim formally notified the Security Council tonight that Syria and Israel had agreed to extend the mandate of the U.N. force in the Golan Heights.

But he said in his report dictated from Damascus that the Middle East situation was still tense and could become "increasingly dangerous."

n extension forces little ise in Israel

SYRIA, May 27 (R). — Syria's decision to extend the mandate of the United Nations Truce Supervision Force on the Golan Heights for six months produced little surprise here today.

A Foreign Ministry official said he generally expected the extension of the mandate to the question of the Golan Heights.

He made it clear that it was not a matter of Syria's agreement to the extension of the mandate unless Syria did the Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Mr. Waldheim showed to what he called "stagnation."

The Foreign Ministry spokesman reported that the Syrian coordinator in the Golan Heights, Lieutenant-General Aswud, had called on Foster Yigal Allon to tell him of Syria's agreement to extend the mandate.

General called on Mr. Allon and told him that the agreement was made with no political conditions, the spokesman said.

He also reacted coolly to reports put out by Security members last night after the Israeli treatment of the occupied territories.

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Comment expressed grave concern about the well being of the 100,000 Arabs living under occupation since the 1967 war, condemned Israeli settlements in these areas.

Officials called the debate and sterile propaganda mounted by Egypt, with which the deal was one-sided, they said.

Schmidt starts Turkey trip reference to Cyprus

BRUSSELS, May 27 (R). — West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt expressed hopes for Turkey-Greek tensions on the Cyprus problem, the spokesman of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) said.

Schmidt said on arriving in official three-day visit to Turkey, the German government was deeply concerned over the problems of Cyprus, a reference to strained relations between Turkey and Greece in NATO, following the Turkish invasion of 1974.

Added in a brief airport statement, "It is my firm conviction that lasting solutions to account the dignity of Cyprus can be found."

Schmidt, who was welcomed by Pasha Suleyman Demirel, Turkish leaders, said as a reliable partner in the Atlantic alliance and said that a major contribution to the security of the Western Hemisphere was the visit, his becoming Chancellor in 1974, was part of an effort to restore stability to the eastern Mediterranean.

"The Bonn government is willing to lend a helping hand without, however, trying to interfere," one diplomat said.

Unconfirmed reports here said Herr Schmidt was carrying with him a proposal from the European Economic Community providing for Turkish-held territory on Cyprus to be reduced from the present 38 per cent to 24 per cent.

Herr Schmidt was tonight attending a dinner given in his honour by Mr. Demirel. Official talks are scheduled to open tomorrow.

Turkish sources said they were likely to cover Turkey's arms requirements, economic cooperation and the problems of the 800,000 Turkish workers who form the biggest expatriate community in West Germany.

Mr. Demirel is understood to hope for an assurance that West Germany will step in with increased military aid if the United States congress does not ratify the new Turkey-American defence pact signed in Washington last March.

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But he said in his report dictated from Damascus that the Middle East situation was still tense and could become "increasingly dangerous."

Khaled, Shah agree to keep Gulf stable, secure

TEHRAN, May 27 (R). — King Khaled of Saudi Arabia flew home today after a four-day state visit to Iran during which he and the Shah discussed bilateral, regional and international issues.

Their talks, which continued over lunch today, also included the two countries' cooperation within the 13-nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and the question of maintaining security in the Gulf, officials said.

The Shah was at the airport to see off King Khaled, but the airport ceremony was not broadcast live by radio and television, apparently because of bad weather in the capital.

The King's visit was in response to one the Shah paid to Saudi Arabia shortly after King Khaled ascended the throne in March last year.

As the two most important OPEC members and the most powerful countries in the Gulf, Saudi Arabia and Iran recognise the need for close cooperation.

In an interview published here today the Shah said the two countries agreed on the need to keep the region out of foreign power rivalries, with the littoral states cooperating to preserve stability and security there.

The Shah said that United States' step-by-step diplomacy to solve the Middle East conflict was "no longer useful."

"Solution can be found only through reconvening of the Geneva Conference with Palestinian participation, since the Palestine question is the most important which must be solved, he said.

Answering a question the monarch said Iran did not belong to the Third World and had an independent national policy.

But he urged all countries, particularly those in the region, to remain alert to all threats.

Referring to the despatch of Iranian troops to fight Marxist rebels in the Dhofar province of Oman, the Shah said: "If we had not moved in Oman, Dhofar might have become another Angola, and who knows we may have seen Cuban soldiers there."

"That is why I stress that the countries of the region must strengthen themselves until world disturbances are a thing of the past."

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Qadhafi asks to meet with Sadat

CAIRO, May 26 (AFP). — Libyan Leader Muammar Qadhafi has asked Egyptian President Anwar Sadat to meet him in Libya or at the Libyan border, it was announced today.

This apparent reconciliation move was revealed in a message today to the Egyptian and Libyan student unions. The text was made public by the Libyan embassy here.

The message also informed the students that Colonel Qadhafi has instructed Libyan news media to cease reporting anti-Libyan articles in Egyptian newspapers.

The message was a reply to an appeal from the student unions to settle the dispute with Egypt and halt press warfare.



GETTING AN EMBRACE — Lebanese President-elect Mr. Elias Sarkis is welcomed by the Mufti of Lebanon, Sheikh Hassan Khaled, in Beirut Thursday. (AP wirephoto).

Race is on for primary elections in California

LOS ANGELES, May 27 (R). — Three of the main candidates for the Republican and Democratic presidential nominations have arrived in California to open their campaigns for the state's primary election on June 8.

Two of them — Governor Edmund "Jerry" Brown, a Democrat and former Governor Ronald Reagan (Republican) are anything but strangers in California. Mr. Brown took over from Mr. Reagan as Governor of the country's most populous state in 1975.

The third candidate is Senator Frank Church of Idaho. Obviously aware of Mr. Brown's popularity here, he said after arriving yesterday: "I did not come to California to bury Jerry."

Both Mr. Brown and Senator Church are hoping instead to blunt the drive of the Democratic party's front-runner — Jimmy Carter.

In spite of losing three of the six primaries held last Tuesday, the former Georgia Governor has collected more than 800 of the 1,505 delegates needed to capture the nomination at the party's national convention this summer.

Governor Brown is favoured to win the Democratic race for California's 200 delegates — the largest number sent by any state to the convention. Senator Church, elated by three recent primary victories, is considered to be in a close race with Mr. Carter for second place.

Mr. Carter was spending today campaigning in the friendlier state of New Jersey, which along with Ohio also holds its primary on June 8 — the last primary elections before the national conventions.

Mr. Reagan is favoured to win the Republican primary in California. This could be a bad omen for President Ford, for, unlike the Democratic election, the Republican primary here is a winner-take-all contest with 167 delegates for the victor.

President Ford plans to campaign vigorously in the state, hoping for a victory that would leave him comfortably ahead of Mr. Reagan going into the convention. [See earlier story page 3].

Meanwhile, smouldering controversy over the forced bus transfers (Continued on page 6)

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Cyprus negotiators meet

NICOSIA, May 27 (R). — Negotiators for the two sides in the Cyprus dispute met for the first time in more than three months on neutral ground in Nicosia today.

The meeting was held under United Nations auspices and a U.N. communique later said the question of Greek-Cypriots missing or living in the Turkish-controlled north of the island was discussed.

The Turkish-Cypriot side also raised the matter of cars left behind by Turkish-Cypriot refugees in the British sovereign base area in the south where they took refuge during the fighting.

Lebanese fears are stirred after murder of Junblatt's sister

BEIRUT, May 27 (Agencies). — The truce sprang from a meeting between Mr. Junblatt and President-elect Elias Sarkis last week.

But the murder of Mrs. Linda Atrash was immediately denounced by Mr. Junblatt's political foes and the badly-shaken leftist chief tonight appealed to his followers not to seek revenge.

The gunmen opened fire as soon as Mrs. Atrash opened the door of her house in a right-wing district.

Nuha Junblatt, 28, one of her five daughters was also wounded and is in serious condition following emergency surgery. Another of Mrs. Junblatt's daughters, Sammar, 18, was slightly hurt.

The unidentified gunmen were said to have sped away in a green Japanese car towards an intersection at the borderline between rightist east Beirut and the leftist west.

The shooting was the second attack within three days in a right-wing and predominantly Christian district against a prominent figure.

Moderate Christian leader Raymond Eddé was shot in the leg as his car was ambushed on Tuesday.

The biggest rightwing party, the Phalangists, denounced the murder of Mr. Junblatt's sister as the work of hired criminals.

Phalangist Party leader Pierre Gemayel, who has been Mr. Junblatt's implacable political foe, called the shooting part of "diabolical schemes of evil which stop at nothing."

Mr. Gemayel's son Beshir was reported to have spoke with Junblatt, who was described as being in a state of shock.

But in a statement tonight, Mr. Junblatt said: "We hope and pray that our brothers... will restrain their spontaneous reaction so as not to compromise the purity of this martyrdom and its symbolisation of a will that lifted us and our sister above the level of minor sectarian grudges."

The Phalangists described the killing as the work of "the subversive hand."

"The aim is to play the Lebanese off against each other whenever the situation tends to be calm," the party's radio said.

The killing followed a week of undeclared, but not always headed, truce between the mainly Christian rightists and the predominantly Moslem leftwing.

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Beirut airport encased in sandbags

BEIRUT, May 27 (AFP). — Strategic installations at Beirut International Airport were encased in sandbags today as airport officials pledged to continue at least minimum services despite periodic bombardments by conservative forces.

"We will operate as long as possible," an official said.

"To date, no essential installations have been hit during the bombardments. Therefore we will continue while taking a maximum of precautions."

Despite the bombardments, however, hundreds of passengers continue to arrive or depart through the Beirut airport each day.

"It is up to them to decide whether they want to take the chance," an employee observed.

In the terminal building, where many of the windows are shattered, only Middle East Airlines is still in operation. Bookshops, banks and boutiques are closed, and the tarmac is empty for most of the day.

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OPEC states show wide differences on oil prices

BALI, Indonesia, May 27 (R). — The world's major oil producing countries met late into the evening here to bridge wide differences over future policy on oil prices, which surfaced when their ministerial meeting opened today.

The ministers of the 13-member Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) must decide whether to raise oil prices from July 1 or continue a freeze imposed eight months ago to help the world economy out of its two-year recession.

Indonesia's President Suharto, speaking at the opening ceremony on behalf of the world's poorer countries, stressed the need for oil prices to keep pace with inflation.

"We have every right to demand a reasonable and fair price for our oil," he said. "It is therefore our strong belief that the adjustment of oil prices to the rate of inflation is only fair and just."

But the Saudi Arabian Oil Minister, Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, whose country's reserves are more than the rest of the OPEC nations' together, said he would strongly oppose any price increase.

"Our position is that we will oppose any increase in price and we have a very strong position on that," Sheikh Yamani told reporters.

Informed sources said Algeria and Qatar supported Saudi Arabia's demand for a further freeze.

But they said Iraq put forward a demand for a 15 per cent increase and Libyan Minister Ezzedin Mabruk told the meeting he wanted a five per cent rise at least.

The ministerial meeting is being held under the strictest security ever seen by long-time observers of OPEC.

Armed guards patrolled the dirt tracks and coconut groves surrounding the Pertamina resort compound where the meeting is taking place.

While gunboats cruised just offshore, journalists were channelled one at a time through a series of body searches and metal detectors.

Only delegates were otherwise allowed into the compound. No delegates were allowed out, as the Indonesians made it quite clear they meant to prevent any repetition of the kidnapping of ministers in Vienna last December.

One of the questions expected to be discussed is a proposal to move the OPEC headquarters from Vienna to a more secure location — possibly Geneva.

Informed sources said the ministers were nearing full agreement tonight on a proposal by Algeria to improve the system for pricing different OPEC crude oils according to their variations in quality.

On the main question of prices, President Suharto, speaking for the whole developing world, stressed the link between the talks here and the dialogue between rich and poor countries in Nairobi and Paris.

"We should remain aware that as oil producing and exporting countries, we have a responsibility towards the welfare of the world in general and the fate of the developing countries," the president said.

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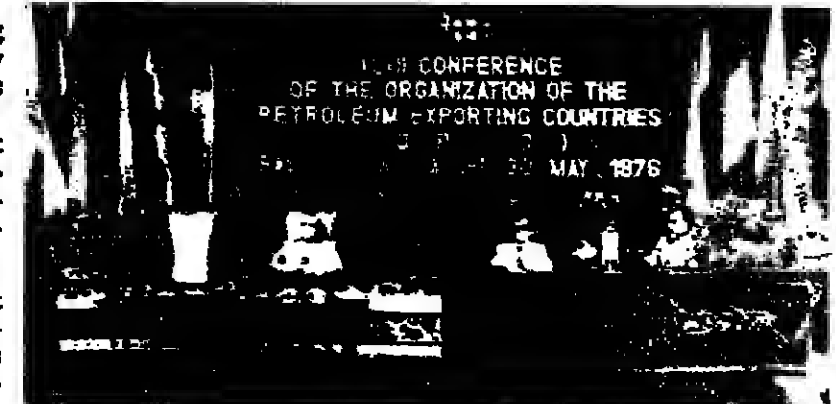
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OPEC OPENING — Indonesian President Suharto (far left) addresses the opening session of the OPEC meeting in Bali. (AP wirephoto).

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Security measures

The bomb incident at Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion airport Tuesday illustrates precisely what the Palestinian resistance movement has been saying for years — that the Zionist sense of "security" that derives from guns and policemen is a false sense of security.

Though it is still not clear who exactly carried the bombs and what their ultimate target was, it is noteworthy that the Israeli press reacted quickly by saying the "tolerant attitude" of the West Europeans to the PLO was behind the explosions and the deaths. It is a good start that the Israelis know their enemies. Perhaps in time the Israelis and their supporters will similarly come to recognise the futility of trying to erect "security" barriers that could insulate them from the attacks of their enemies — in this case the Palestinian people.

There is no foolproof security system for Israel to hide behind. The sticks and stones of the West Bank have demonstrated this to a point. What is also relevant in this respect is that while Israel tries with all the power of modern technology to protect itself from the armed attacks of the Palestinian movement, it also tries with all its will to remain blind to the political reality of the Palestinians. Israel seeks to ignore the Palestinians while shielding itself from them. It is a contradiction they have not been able to fully work out in Israel, and it will take them years still to do so.

As the airport bombing shows, there is not a 100% effective system to keep out the guns that are directed at Israel. But the Zionist psyche does not appreciate this. Now there will be even tighter "security" systems installed in Israel and throughout every airport in the world from where planes fly to Israel. When the next bomb goes off, there will be more Israeli complaints that the people of some European country are not strict enough. And so the cycle of the Israeli fortress mentality repeats itself.

The same principles apply to the Israeli plans to set up more settlements throughout the West Bank and other occupied Arab lands. The reasoning in Tel Aviv is that the settlements are vital to Israel's security, while during the past four months Israeli soldiers have been shooting Arab teenagers in the West Bank and Galilee, well behind the so-called security belt Israel is erecting.

The end result of this obsession with security will be for Israel to learn the hopelessness of its methods. The only security that the Jewish people in Palestine will ever have will come from the recognition they must receive from the Palestinians. Until they get this, they will have to go around building miniature fortresses in every airport in the world and at every spot inside Israel where a Palestinian man, woman or child walks, breathes and continues to struggle against the injustice and the danger that is the Israeli state.

Minister of tourism receives Soviet delegation

AMMAN. — The Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Ghaleb Barakat Thursday received the visiting Vice-President of the Kabardino-Balkar Soviet Socialist Republic and the accompanying delegation.

Discussions centred on means to encourage visits between the two countries. Mr. Barakat promised his guest that a tourism bulletin on Jordan will soon be produced in the Russian language by the ministry, at the delegation's suggestion.

S.E. Asian delegation expected in mid-June

AMMAN. — An economic delegation from South East Asian countries arrives here on June 17 for a five-day visit. The delegation, which includes Malaysian and Indonesian industrialists will look over the economic situation here and meet with local industrialists, exporters and importers to discuss means to increase commercial exchange between Jordan and South East Asian countries.

The delegation's visit is part of the programme set up by the International Trade Centre in Geneva to promote exports.



Government, Al-Nour company sign transport accord

AMMAN. — A transport agreement was signed here Wednesday between the government, represented by the Minister of Finance and the local Al-Nour Contracting Company. Under the agreement

the company will handle transport supply goods, grain and cattle for the Ministry of Supply and equipment and machinery for the armed forces, the public security department, the Natural Resources Authority, and the National Planning Council.

The agreement was concluded for a one-year period and comes into force as of June 1st.

New Pakistani ambassador arrives

AMMAN. — Pakistan's new ambassador to Jordan Abdul Ghayur arrived here Thursday morning.

The charges d'affaires of Pakistan, Iran and Turkey were present at the airport to welcome him. Also present were representatives from the Protocol Department at the Foreign Ministry.



The new Pakistani Ambassador to Jordan, Mr. Abdul Ghayur (centre with cane) seen after arriving at Amman airport Thursday morning.

Japanese private organisations contribute to UNRWA

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) announced Wednesday that it had received a contribution for 1976 of \$25,000 from five Japanese economic organisations — the Federation of Economic Organisations, Japan Chamber of Commerce, Japan Federation of Employers' Associations, Japan Committee for Economic Development and the Industry Club of Japan.

On behalf of the five organisations, the cheque was presented by H.E. Mr. Minao Tsuchiya, Ambassador of Japan to Jordan, to Sir John Renzie, Commissioner-General of UNRWA.

Crown Prince receives Senegalese envoy

AMMAN, (JNA). — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Thursday morning received at the Royal Hashemite Court Mr. Mustapha Al Sees the Senegalese Ambassador in Kuwait and President Leopold Senghor's personal envoy.

Later he left Amman at noon which ended his short visit to Jordan.

During his stay he delivered a message to His Majesty King Hussein from President Senghor regarding the development of relations between the two countries and Arab-African relations.

National Briefs

● AMMAN. — The Federation of Chambers of commerce Thursday received an invitation from the Indian chambers of industry and commerce to visit India to look over Indian industrial and commercial activities.

● AMMAN. — Prime Minister Zeid Rifal Thursday received a cable of congratulations from Soviet Prime Minister Alexei Kosygin on the occasion of Independence and Army Day.

● KERAK. — The Deputy Governor of Kerak Thursday opened a tourism exhibition at the Young Women's Centre on the occasion of Independence and Army Day. The exhibit includes posters and photos on tourism and a handicrafts display.

In transmitting the cheque Japanese ambassador noted that Japanese economic organisations had contributed a number of contributions in response to the appeal by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) in recognition of the role played by UNRWA in the Middle East, the government of Japan had steadily increased contributions to the Agency in cash and in kind and again in 1975. The Japanese government had not yet announced its contribution for 1976 in previous years.

Sir John expressed his appreciation for this contribution by non-governmental Japanese organisations and for the support by the government of Japan of UNRWA's health, education and relief programmes for Palestinian refugees.

World Bank bo Jordan's development projects

AMMAN. — The World Bank Thursday stated its confidence and announced support for projects in Jordanian plans. The Bank also urged international companies to participate in its economic projects, as enjoys a sound reputation international companies, projects have been proven economically viable, JNA added but gave no further as to the source or date.

Sources at the National Planning Council said the Council received a number of requests from international companies pressing a wish to participate in Jordan's development projects to be held here May 31. Such participation, they said, would allow the companies to project which Jordan will finance and decide accord. A number of countries already pledged to finance in development projects.

Delegations to the conference will start arriving here as day.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

The Jordanian newspapers Thursday discussed Dr. Kissinger's statement Wednesday about new peace moves in the Middle East, while the Syrian newspapers took up Dr. Waldheim's talks in Damascus.

Al Rai says those in the know say there is a new international move towards peace in the Middle East. Yesterday, at the CENTO meeting in London, Dr. Kissinger stated the United States will soon embark on a new peace initiative without the initiative being tied up with the American presidential elections. There is also Dr. Kurt Waldheim's talks in Damascus to extend the United Nations peace-keeping forces mandate in the Golan. "These threats, put together, can hardly convince many people of a new international move..." The paper asks: "Was Dr. Kissinger's statement on a new United States initiative a sort of stimulant to the CENTO conference? And was Kissinger serious when he spoke of a new initiative unconnected with the U.S. elections?"

Al Rai continued to say that the Israelis seem to feel, rather fretfully, that there will be a lot of pressure, especially as regards the Golan Heights. However, the paper adds, the present internal disputes in Israel, particularly among the Government coalition blocs, affirm that Israel is not ready for an international initiative, even if it came from Washington; because any peculiar Israeli stance is liable to "explode" the Cabinet and compel everyone to face new elections.

Al Dustour remarks on Dr. Kissinger's admission that the step-by-step policy in the Middle East achieved only limited results; and that in order to move towards an overall peaceful settlement, a new impetus is needed through a "renewal of negotiations."

Al Dustour says if we go back to Dr. Kissinger's numerous statements during his shuttle trips, we would find that he had often stressed that comprehensive peace would only be realised through a step-by-step policy, which he now admits failed to achieve the

sought out peace. "Doubtless," the paper adds, "the real reason for Dr. Kissinger's lack of success lies in what the U.S. ex-Vice President Spiro Agnew said in an American T.V. interview — that the U.S., regrettably, does not have balanced policy in the Middle East."

The paper went on: "Dr. Kissinger, who declared his intention to renew his efforts to achieve peace in the area, should realise in advance that he will fail again, and lose all peace opportunities, if he does not exercise an even-handed policy aiming not only to bring about peace in the Middle East, but also a just and durable peace, which would come about only when Israel withdraws from all occupied Arab territories and restitutes the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people."

On the other hand, the Damascus papers took issue with the Secretary of State's description of the Sinai agreement as a "brilliant step." Al Baath says Dr. Kissinger was distorting the facts when he stated that the Lebanese disturbances hindered peace in the Middle East. It says even a simpleton understands that the

Lebanese events were the result of the Sinai agreement and the step-by-step policy.

"The agreement was a brilliant work only from the American and Zionist points of view," Al Baath declared.

In the meantime, Al Baath and its contemporary Al Thawra both struck a moderate note when they referred to Dr. Waldheim's talks in Damascus on the possible extension of the U.N. forces mandate in the Golan. Al Baath says the Syrian attitude is governed by whether or not peace will be just and firm... This follows that Syrian diplomacy was right when it adopted flexibility and freedom of movement, rather than solidity.

Al Thawra stressed Syria's keenness on the continuation of efforts for a just settlement in accordance with United Nations resolutions for an Israeli withdrawal from all occupied territories and the full recognition of the Palestinian people's rights.

This wish, the paper says, is concordant with Syria's determination to defend its rights and to continue its lawful struggle in all its forms, until the aims of the Arab struggle were achieved.

CAIRO, Egypt (CSM). — Egypt is beginning to lose its battle to insulate its urban masses from world inflation.

The poor (anybody earning less than \$60 a month) have been hit by 35 per cent inflation since 1973. In such vital commodities as sugar and beans (their main source of protein), prices have gone up almost 100 per cent.

A poor Cairene survives on six slabs of round, unleavened bread a day, plus a few vegetables and sweet tea.

The price of bread is rigidly protected and has not changed in the memory of living Egyptians. One piece of bread costs half an Egyptian piaster, the equivalent of one American penny.

What has happened is that loaves have grown steadily smaller and the flour is of poorer quality as government-supervised bakers try to make it go farther.

Two thousand years ago Cleopatra took the view that the Egyptian masses would stay content as long as they could buy cheap bread. President Sadat today seems to share this sentiment; his government subsidises four-fifths of the cost of every piece of bread. Since an average of six pieces

a day are consumed per person and some 20 million urban Egyptians, or half the population of 39 million, largely survive on bread, the Egyptian government is in effect distributing 96 million nearly free pieces of bread each day.

The cost is enormous. The bill to subsidise food, fuel and clothing for the poor is expected to surpass \$1.1 billion this year, almost double what it was two years ago. This itself could be self-defeating and inflationary if the government has to expand the money supply to pay for it.

The alternative is foreign aid. Mr. Sadat recently said he needed \$4 billion cover Egypt's balance-of-payments deficit in 1976 and 1977. In 1975, \$2.5 billion was pledged, but only a handful of Cairo bankers know how much really came in.

The pledges included \$600 million from Saudi Arabia, \$500 million from Kuwait, \$200 million from Abu Dhabi, \$200 million from Iran, \$100 million from Qatar, plus \$250 million from the United States, and lesser amounts from European donors and Japan.

Egypt has been trying to grow more wheat. In 1973 seed for the Mexican-bred, high-yielding dwarf varieties was sown on 510,000 acres, but this fell to 110,000 acres this year.

Egypt's farmer resented a government demand to buy their doubled yields per acre at low fixed prices and claimed the new varieties took more water (untrue) and more fertiliser (true).

Then Cairo's government-controlled bakers objected to the new flour's lower moisture content and complained that bread made with it crumbled and tasted less than appetizing.

For the time being, it looks like the Green Revolution has passed Egypt by.

This means Egypt has to import 3.3 million tons of wheat this year from the United States, Canada, France and Australia. The country has obtained long-term, low-interest repayment for some, but it will

all have to be in hard currency.

Whether Egypt can get the cash and continue to depend on its oil-rich neighbours' generosity is getting to be a sticky question in Cairo.

The Egyptian government — aside from bread — also subsidises such essential commodities as sugar, tea, beans, cloth, shoes, tobacco, kerosene, cooking oil and matches, but it has allowed prices for all these commodities to float upward.

Nonsubsidised food such as meat has skyrocketed, chicken and lamb rising 60 to 70 per cent, and beef, popular among Muslims for their big Friday meal (like the U.S. Sunday dinner), has tripled.

Inflation is hitting the poor at a particularly bad moment. Last August Mr. Sadat, hoping to stimulate investment in the economy, opened the floodgates to consumer goods after years and years of stringent austerity since the Nasser-led 1952 revolution and the long conflict with Israel.

The hope was that Egyptian businessmen would set up new small-scale industries. In what the government calls its "owned currency" programme, any Egyptian with hard currency abroad can import consumer goods worth up to \$8,650 (5,000 Egyptian pounds per transaction, with no questions asked about where the money came from).

What happened instead was a flood into Cairo and Alexandria of the most luxurious consumer goods the West and Japan have tentatively survived on ver to offer: Mercedes, Peugeots, TV

sets, air-conditioners, digitals, computers and cable Paris gowns, and perfume.

Suddenly Cairo's street full of speeding West C. French, and Italian cars and a nose motorcycles in traffic jammed with draycars, put decrepit old buses and taxis

This quick surge by the class toward North American styles caught everyone by

Yet the influx of goods caused economic even in the slum bazaars: part of Mr. Sadat's strategy which includes reeling the Suez Canal and its getting industry moving commodity imports, better Egypt's land and water resources so that the country can feed and attracting foreign investment.

The woes of foreign businessmen trying to make a profit send a cable, find an apartment (which rent for \$700 to \$1,000 a month) or deal with an inept bureaucracy have been widely

Things are improving for one Egyptian official on it is getting "horribly expensive" to try to do everything with hard currency abroad can develop for the future, as the poor fed with subsidised

Bread is probably the longest as it sells for half a and the leaves shrink no there may be no significant or rumblings of discontent Egyptian masses have quietly survived on ver else for thousands of years



Seen during trials off Dunbar on Scotland's east coast is 'Hoverfly' a new low cost glass fibre single-seater hovercraft developed primarily for the worldwide leisure market. 'Hoverfly' is steered by handbars rather like those of a motorcycle, with a throttle as the only other control. It is powered by a single two-stroke engine driving a fan which performs the twin functions of lift and propulsion.

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In a majority statement Security Council calls on Israel to rescind discriminatory measures

UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK, May 27, (AFP). — The majority of Security Council members last night expressed its "grave anxiety" over the situation in Israeli-occupied Arab territories and called on Israel to "restrain from and rescind any measures in violation of the Geneva Convention on civilians in time of war."

US representative William Scranton immediately dissociated himself from the statement, which was read by French representative Louis de Guiringaud.

Israeli representative Chaim Herzog, also speaking to the council after the statement, rejected the statement, rejecting the viewpoint of all council members with the exception of the United States.

A majority statement followed by the Council since 1967, on an Egyptian complaint of Israeli policy in the territories occupied in 1967.

Delegates regretted that the statement failed to go as far as it should.

Scranton said the majority was concerned over the well-being of the population of these areas.

He went on: "The Fourth Geneva Convention relative to the protection of civilian persons in time of war is applicable to the territories occupied by Israel since 1967. The occupying power was therefore called upon to comply strictly with the provisions of that convention and to take any measures that would be necessary to ensure the well-being of the population."

He said measures taken by Israel in occupied territories after their demographic or geographical nature "artificially the establishment of settlements were accordingly prohibited. Such measures, which would prejudice the outcome of the search for the establishment of peace, constitute an obstacle to peace. The Security Council should continue to follow the situation closely."

Scranton said that the statement lacked "balance", but he

also was mildly critical of Israel.

"Israel has ample reason, with the experience of recent years, to feel that this Council too seldom approaches the Middle East with objectivity," he said. "It would be mistaken, however, to dismiss as products of blind partisanship all the points contained in the statement read out in this chamber today."

He said that the Israeli government should note "the fact that there are aspects of its policies in the occupied territories, in particular that involving the establishment of settlements, that are increasingly a matter of concern and distress to its friends throughout the world and are not helpful to the process of peace."

But he said the United States believed that "the statement's sweeping injunction to Israel to rescind measures is out of place in this context and at this time."

Mr. Scranton, referring to the Geneva Convention references in the statement, noted that "There is no corresponding reference... to those provisions of the convention which explicitly recognise that the occupying power has the duty to maintain law and order and the right to protect its forces."

Mr. Herzog, the Israeli representative, said that "Israel rejects the thesis that the establishment of settlements is an obstacle to peace."

Mr. Herzog continued: "The obstacle to peace is the Arab refusal to recognize the Jewish people's right to sovereignty in its ancient homeland."

Libyan representative Mansur Rashid Wilkhia said he was sorry the Council had concluded the debate with a "weak, watered-down" statement that did not even call on Israel to withdraw its occupation troops.

He attributed that result to the U.S. influence and pressure for the "Zionist regime."

Abdel Meguid, Egypt's representative, said he was pleased with the statement which he viewed as a "warning to Israel that its repressive policy and defan-

ce of the world community endangered the chance for peace in the region."

Mr. Meguid said he hoped the Council minority—the United States—would soon join the majority.

Allon: peace must allow expression of Palestinian identity

JERUSALEM, May 26, (R). — Foreign Minister Yigal Allon today said that a settlement to the Arab-Israeli dispute must contain provisions that will "enable the Palestinians to find an expression of their identity."

He declared Israel's readiness to begin immediate discussions with Arab countries on either a full peace agreement or a lesser end-of-war accord.

He was addressing an annual gathering of Jews and Arabs, including a number from the occupied areas, at his Kibbutz (collective settlement) near the Sea of Galilee.

Mr. Allon said: "Israel agreement does not yet fix utterly rejects deadlock. We favour immediate negotiations for either an overall peace settlement, which we prefer most of all, or, failing that, a far-reaching interim agreement that would end the state of war."

A cessation of hostilities agreement must include "recognition on each other's right to exist, even if the final boundaries," as well as mutual undertakings to refrain from military, economic and political warfare, he stated.

"History has decreed that Jews and Arabs should forever live side by side," Mr. Allon said. "It is imperative that we learn to live together in peace. Wars will solve nothing. The only solution is a political one."



UN SPEAKER — Israel's United Nations Ambassador Chaim Herzog addresses the Security Council session Wednesday. (AP wirephoto).

Djibouti premised insists on universal suffrage

PARIS, May 27 (AFP). — Djibouti Prime Minister Ali Aref Bourhane, here along with opposition delegations for talks with the French government on the territory's future, has said only granting universal suffrage can save the situation there.

Speaking last night after talks with Olivier Stirn, Secretary of State for French Overseas Departments and Territories, Mr. Ali Aref reacted fiercely to criticism of his ruling National Independence Union (UNI) party by opposition groups.

"I did not give much for the changes of a round table conference (on independence) succeeding before, but after these latest remarks by the opposition I give even less," the Territorial Premier said. He said the UNI had been prepared to negotiate with any group in the supreme interests of the nation and still was.

However, the UNI did not possess the "terrorist arm" which the official opposition African People's Independence League (LPAI) had in the form of the Somali-based Somali Coast Liberation Front (FLCS).

"We are legalist. We believe in the strength of our people. We do not take to the streets," Mr. Ali Aref said.

The UNI had solid popular support, the Premier claimed.

Asked whether he would be ready to resign, Mr. Ali Aref said he would only do so "in the highest interests of my country."

"I consider myself a real Gaullist and I will fight to the end. This is the heritage of de Gaulle which I am carrying on in Djibouti. I will accept advice only from real Gaullists," Mr. Ali Aref went on. He added that he did not include the Gaullist UDR party "who are ready to ally themselves with socialism in the event of a leftist victory."

The President and Secretary-General of Mr. Ali Aref's party, Omar Farah Iltireh and Ahmed Youssouf also criticised opposition allegations yesterday that the UNI was not representative.

Republicans may not trade in their Ford after all

WASHINGTON, May 26, (R). — Two surprise primary election victories by President Ford have taken him to within striking distance of the Republican presidential nomination.

Political experts said Mr. Ford's wins Tuesday in Kentucky and Tennessee—both states in which Ronald Reagan had been the favourite—could upset predictions of a close finish by the two rivals in the nomination race.

They said they could prove to be the key results which would return Mr. Ford to the White House.

In the Democratic contest the latest primary results have raised doubts about the ability of front-runner Jimmy Carter to secure the nomination on the first ballot at his party's convention.

He won three of the six primaries yesterday but suffered defeats in Nevada, Idaho and Oregon.

It was the third successive week that the millionaire peanut farmer, his usually widely-smiling face now showing signs of strain, had been beaten.

A relative newcomer, Senator Frank Church, of Idaho, won in Idaho and Oregon, and California Governor Edmund (Jerry) Brown, also a recent arrival on the election scene, took Nevada.

President Ford surprised Mr. Reagan in Kentucky and Tennessee with narrow victories and won Oregon as expected.

He lost Arkansas, Nevada and Idaho by wide margins to Mr. Reagan—also as expected. Mr. Reagan picked up 87 delegate votes

and Mr. Ford 79.

Mr. Ford remained the overall leader with 777 delegate votes to 644 in the race for the 1,130 needed for the presidential nomination.

He also had the psychological lift he needed to try to win Mr. Reagan's home state of California on June 8, the last day of the primary election season.

Mr. Reagan must now win California's 167 delegate votes if he is to go to the Republican convention in August with any hope of denying Mr. Ford a first ballot victory.

Mr. Ford, who has been campaigning in California, said today he was encouraged.

"It is certainly better than we expected and I think a little disappointing to our opposition," he told reporters.

Mr. Reagan launched a heavy campaign in California and declared he still believed he would win the nomination on the first ballot.

Mr. Carter won, as expected, on his home ground, the southern states of Tennessee, Arkansas, and Kentucky.

He collected 136 delegates, including some from the distribution of delegates in Missouri and Alabama, to boost his overall total to 877. A total of 1,505 is needed to win the Democratic nomination at the New York convention in July.

Mr. Carter hopes to win at least 1,200 delegate votes in the primary elections and will then be in a strong position to swing uncommitted delegates behind him.

The strain of his long campaign is beginning to tell on Mr. Carter.

At a hotel in New York last night his face was drawn and tired-looking, although he expressed confidence.

"When you look at the overall picture, we have had 15 primaries in May and I have won nine of them," he said.

Mr. Brown, in a pointed reference to Mr. Carter's perpetual grin, said his victory showed the electors did not want the issues smoothed away with a smile.

Under Oregon primary rules, election officials had to place on the ballots the names of all possible candidates.

Although they are not actively campaigning, Senator Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota won six per cent of the Democratic vote and Senator Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts three per cent.



SIGHTSEEING — Iranian Prime Minister Amir Abbas Hoveyda (third from right) is seen during his visit Wednesday to the Georges Pompidou Cultural Centre in Paris. To his right is French Premier Jacques Chirac and Mrs. Pompidou. (AP wirephoto).

Some still dream of another "Prague Spring"

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia (CSM). — "I have finished my memoirs — three volumes. A thousand people have read the typescript. I hope they will be published here in my lifetime; who knows? Meanwhile they lie in a drawer for anyone to read who will."

The speaker was a veteran publicist, a life-long Communist who left the Czechoslovak party in 1970. He is one of the many committed supporters of the short-lived liberalisation of 1968 who now lives in forced obscurity.

One of many who can write only for a private readership, he lives quietly at home, working, and declining publication abroad — "not until I can be printed first in my own country," he says.

He has not been specially harassed. Nor, for that matter, has the small circle of his fellows who still protest openly from time to time. Just before the recent party congress, a few of them called for the release of a dozen political prisoners jailed in 1972.

Recently, the state police asked many dissidents here to sign a document acknowledging that their activities came close to infringing the law on "subversion" and banning Czechoslovakie's image abroad.

Most of them, including Frantisek Kriegel, declined. Dr. Kriegel, a former politburo member, was the only one of the Czechoslovak leaders who refused to sign the agreement imposed on them in Moscow after invasion of August, 1968.

Dr. Kriegel is one of the few prominent figures of that time who still command unqualified respect from a population that today shows scant interest in politics.

He remains an idealist and still hopes, he says, to see in this century a "world of equal societies with people enjoying full civil and human rights."

He and other reformers stood in 1968 for the kind of independent

socialism that major Western Communist parties now advocate and for political liberties incorporated in the Helsinki principles accepted by all the European nations, Russia included, last year.

"I have my pension and no problems, except that I cannot publish," the former editor says. "The police call me in periodically to ask what am I doing? I tell them, writing. It becomes a duel—I almost enjoy it!"

Others have other frustrations. The younger professionals are still denied employment in their own fields, and a lack of skilled personnel becomes increasingly evident. (That may be why party is offering many a possibility of readmission.)

The children of reformers are barred from high school and university. Determined teenagers get around this by taking a factory job and being listed as "worker" on their identity cards. They work hard, then ask for admission to higher education—and get through.

The leadership has yet to gain genuine popular support for more than its consumerist policies. In spite of economic growth and stability, it fears to unbend more.

Cultural policy is typical. There are signs of a wish to come to terms with writers and dramatists. But this has been achieved in only a few cases of any significance. The offer is too selective, so most intellectuals refuse to consider it.

Perhaps it is a question of more time. For the present, Gustav Husak can "contain" the hard-liners, but he cannot tip the scale with more moderation without winning more popular support. That remains the paradox of the whole Czechoslovak situation.

Filler: In March 1975 the nails on the left hand of Mohan Aditya of Calcutta, India, were 1 inch short of 5 feet.

Dogma versus revisionism in communist camp

VIENNA, Austria (CSM). — The party's right to shape its "individual road to socialism."

year-old ideological clash delaying the Soviet-sponsored European Communist conference has broadened into a wholesale Soviet campaign against the Western "revisionists."

The conference issue has passed the biggest challenge to the Soviet Union's "leading role" since the Yugoslavs asserted their independence from Stalin. It could prove of greater significance for the international movement.

The Moscow-Belgrade schism of 1948 involved only one rebel. Today there are almost a dozen.

They include the two biggest parties in Western Europe, the Italian and French, which are taking the same stand Yugoslavia did against Soviet domination of the movement and upholding each

are hitting back.

debated in preparatory meetings of delegates from all East bloc parties. The Soviets signalled the campaign with an uncompromising speech in which Politburo member Mikhail Suslov called Western parties opposing the Kremlin guideline "enemies" and "opportunists."

Then the booklet indicated the general line of the "independent" parties. Although written by an "unknown," it had the party committee's authority behind it.

It calls the independents "rightist revisionists," the label given subsequently to Prague's Communist reformers after their ouster in 1968, and accuses them of replacing Marxism with bourgeois liberalism.

By rejecting Soviet experience and leadership, the booklet says, they are "aiding the reactionary forces of imperialism."

Reactions from the independents include a sharp editorial in the Italian Communist Party newspaper L'Unita, which ridiculed the Soviet writer's argument as "grotesque dogma."

It noted that Lenin himself had said Western Europe's revolutionary way would differ from the Soviet Union's.

"Since then, 50 years ago, the world has changed, the workers movement has undergone experiences that naturally go beyond Lenin's horizon—but still there are some who have learned nothing," L'Unita concluded ironically.

A run of severe Yugoslav communist denounced the booklet as a renewed attempt to impose the "theory of limited sovereignty"—invoked military against Czechoslovakia—on all other parties and regimes.

The Yugoslav news agency's Moscow correspondent described it as an indication that the "settling of accounts with revisionism." Stalin's old threat to Belgrade, is still a basic aim of the Soviet party.

Young Czechoslovaks like folk songs but have little interest in politics.

FINANCIAL TIMES

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British government's economic forecasts too rosy

LONDON, May 27 (AFP) — British government forecasts on how low it can get the inflation rate are rather too optimistic, the National Institute of Economic and Social Research said yesterday, and it thought sterling would continue depreciating next year.

In its latest quarterly bulletin, it declined to say how far this lieved that Britain's inflation would still be five per cent or so higher next year than that of the other main exporting countries.

This difference should be reflected in the pound sterling's performance in order to maintain the competitiveness of British goods, the institute said.

At the end of this year inflation would still be at a rate of 14.25 per cent and would drop to 8.5 per cent by the end of next year. The government has expressed the hope that inflation will be only 10 per cent at the end of this year and five per cent a year later.

The institute based its forecasts on an average wage rise of some eight per cent for the 12 months starting on Aug. 1 as compared with the six to 6.5 per cent hoped for by the government as a consequence of its pay deal with the unions.

Growth, which got under way in the third quarter last year, should continue at a rough three per cent, mainly due to export demand and restocking, but consumption would stay unchanged, the institute said.

As for unemployment, the figure was likely to stay at about 1,250,000 for the rest of this year, and it would no doubt still be above one million at the end of next year.

The institute saw a five per cent rise in world growth this year and the same increase next year. Inflation would probably be an average 8 per cent this year in the countries within the Organisation

Mali seeks UAE development aid

ABU DHABI, May 27 (R) — United Arab Emirates (UAE) economic development aid for Mali was discussed today by the planning ministers of the two countries, officials said.

Lt. Col. Amadou Baba Diara, who is also Mali's vice president, arrived here last night for talks with UAE officials.

He told UAE Planning Minister Sayyed Mohammed Al Kindi Mali was interested in financial aid from the UAE in the construction of a 100 million dollar hydro-electric dam and also for land reclamation, road and housing.

for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

International trade would rise seven per cent this year. Developing countries and East Europe would be obliged to reduce imports, it said.

Business recovery accelerates in Britain

LONDON, May 27 (AFP) — The recovery in the business pace is accelerating in Britain and company chiefs are becoming much more optimistic, according to the latest survey by the Confederation of British Industry.

Half the business leaders questioned said that in the past four months their order books had improved significantly and only 15 per cent reported a decline in orders.

The pick-up appears to be taking place right across industry, the confederation said. It was specially strong in the consumer goods sector and in the electrical equipment industry.

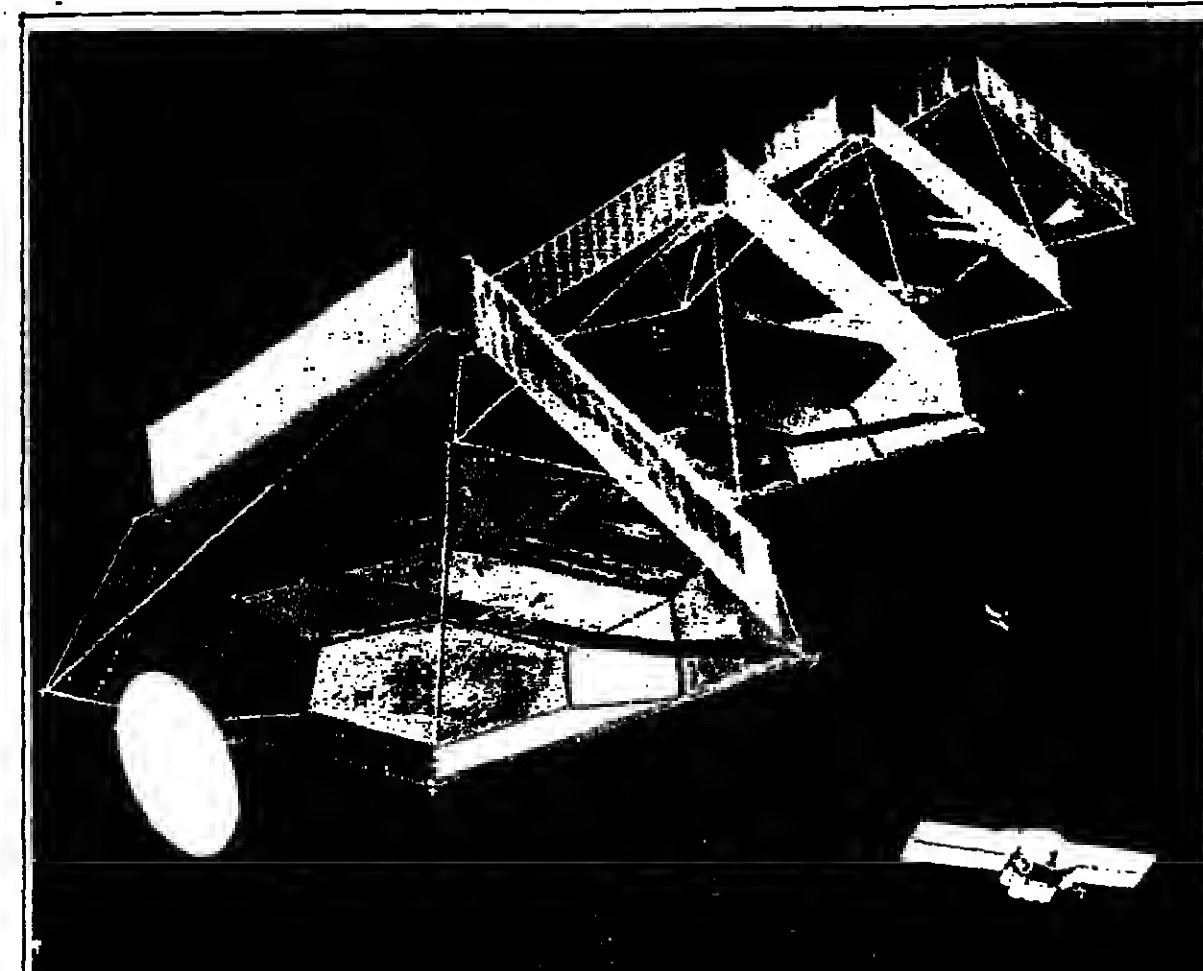
Huge N. Sea oil resources promise boost for Britain

LONDON, (LPS) — Britain is beginning to feel the first small but significant benefits of having major oil reserves on its doorstep. And in less than a year estimates of those reserves have been revised and increased by nearly 30 per cent.

With more than two million tonnes of 'home grown' crude brought ashore since last June's first trickle, the three operational fields in the North Sea—Argyll, Forties and Auk—are now meeting nearly 10 per cent of the country's requirements. Before the end of the year, with four more fields on stream, North Sea oil production will be around 20 million tonnes a year, or 20 per cent of the current rate of national consumption. That will save around £900 million a year on oil imports.

During 1977, it is estimated, annual production will be between 34 and 45 million tonnes, rising to between 55 and 70 million tonnes in 1978, 75 to 95 million tonnes in 1979 and 95 to 115 million tonnes in 1980 when production will be greater than forecast national consumption. Revenue from oil in that year may be as high as £6,000 million compared with an oil import bill of over £3,000 million in 1975.

These projections appear in the British Government's latest review of oil and gas production from the UK continental shelf. When its counterpart was published in 1975, proven reserves of oil off shore stood at 1,060 million tonnes. The string of 28 significant discoveries



ENERGY COLLECTOR — A four-segment power satellite array stretches 15 kilometres across space in this drawing. Giant dishlike mirrors concentrate the sunlight on thermal generators. Then the round disk at left transmits the energy collected as microwaves back to Earth where they are transformed into usable electricity.

during the year has however served to boost this figure to 1,350 million tonnes. Recoverable reserves from all offshore areas licensed are now expected to be between 2,300 & 3,000 million tonnes & total recoverable reserves from all UK designated areas may be as high as 4,500 million tonnes though this figure could increase significantly when the dividing lines between the territorial waters of Britain, the Irish Republic, France and Norway have been agreed and new areas have been designated.

Milestone — Meanwhile Britain has already passed a major milestone in its development as an oil-producing nation, with the export to Federal Germany in April of 50,000 tonnes of crude from the Forties field. This was the first consignment of a total 400,000 tonnes which BP hopes to sell overseas up to the end of July.

True, the quantity of oil involved and its value is insignificant when compared with the country's oil import bill. It does however mark Britain's entry into the privileged ranks of the oil exporting countries, and promises far more than £20 million it will earn. These first small exports merely fore-shadow a trend that should increase steadily until the early 1980s when the country will be a major oil-trading nation.

High Quality — North Sea crude is of high quality, "light" and low in polluting sulphur. It is therefore a premium oil can command an appreciably higher price on the world market than the lower-grade "heavy" crudes. Even when overall self-sufficiency is reached around 1980, Britain will still need to import a large quantity of "heavy" crude, estimated in some quarters at around a million barrels a day, to meet some of her needs, but the cost of these imports will be more than met by export sales.

After ten years of exploration and discovery, the British North Sea oil scene is now entering its development stage: a time of major investment aimed at bringing the area to its maximum production rate within five years.

Largest operator — The Shell/Esso consortium is the largest operator in the North Sea with five fields confirmed as commercially viable. By 1982 it hopes to be producing more than 800,000 barrels a day of oil and natural gas liquids—about half the present UK consumption. To achieve this target Shell/Esso is spending £1.5 million a day in the North Sea, and over the next five years expects to spend £3,500 million at present-day prices. The total development cost of the giant Brent field alone is expected to be £1,800 million. This year the consortium expects to spend £500 million on the development of production capacity in Brent, and the rest on exploration drilling. Offshore installation work in the North Sea this summer will involve 60 ships and construction vessels, 1,600 men and at peak activity a daily cost of more than half a million pounds.

But if development costs are high, so too will be the rewards. To illustrate the potential of such fields as Brent, resources

include nearly 2,000 million barrels of recoverable oil and an estimated 85,000 million cubic metres of associated natural gas. When Brent is further placed

Investigations possible into U.S. commercial bribery

NEW YORK (AP) — A feeling of apprehension exists in much of the American business community in the wake of the Lockheed scandal that the focus of bribery investigations might shift from abroad to reveal similar scandals at home.

Federal agencies so far have tended to skirt the subject, but some American executives state privately that they feel questionable practices are common among some concerns operating within the United States.

They and others are concerned about the ramifications of probes into the standards and practices of domestic business, and fear damage to the United States economy. Some are advocating self-policing by their industries.

To ascertain the extent of activities that might fall within interpretations of illegal or unethical conduct would require an investigation but one executive, well informed about marketing activities, commented: "It will be a shock when people realise the extent of it in large companies."

The United States, he remarked, is the world's largest single market and the most desirable one for many companies, including foreign corporations.

The magazine Sales & Marketing Management conducts surveys among its "leadership panel," made up of 146 executives, many of them sales and marketing vice presidents or directors of sales or marketing.

Fifty-nine replies were received in response to a recent query, and 29 of the respondents said that either they or someone in their company had been asked for payments from American companies. The results will be published this week.

One executive replied: "I have had more requests from U.S. government officials & U.S. companies than from abroad. We have been told by a major company purchasing agent he wants 2 per cent of our sales."

One major problem for investigators is in defining conduct that is unacceptable. Certain practices have over the years come to be accepted as standard operating procedure within industries, but might be considered unethical by others.

Spitting — or paying a retail clerk to push a manufacturer's product — is defended not only

in the context of the Shell/Esso consortium's four other North Sea oil fields, Auk, Cormorant, Dunlin and Tern, the massive investment required can be seen in perspective.

as an effective marketing technique but as a practice given legal justification by the Robin-Patman Act.

However, some executives and most likely some of the buying public, have doubts that the public is best served by giving a clerk \$10 per item to promote one product over another, regardless of the comparative qualities.

One justification for spitting is that the product involved, often an electrical appliance, already has been purchased from the manufacturer before the clerk is paid to promote it.

Bribery, a marketing man explained, would be to pay the purchasing agent of the company to buy the product from the manufacturer. But what he failed to note is that the impact on the public might be the very same.

Various other practices, including entertainment, travel and gifts are also common practices justified as necessary to humanise corporate contacts, but in the absence of guidelines they sometimes grow into significant payoffs.

However, outright bribes are not unknown. A consultant to corporate management tells of a high-level official who, while a relatively minor employee years before, began accepting a bribe and now cannot stop it.

The activities are believed to be more common in very large enterprises involving thousands of people and varied and voluminous operations. In such concerns a malpractice conceivably could go unnoticed by superiors.

Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates at the close of the business day yesterday. The two figures denote buying and selling prices in Jordanian fils:

U.S. dollar :	332.0	334.0
U.K. sterling :	591.0	597.0
French franc :	70.5	70.8
Swiss franc :	135.0	135.4
German mark :	128.9	129.3
Iraqi dinar :	937.0	941.0
Saudi riyal :	94.0	94.4
Syrian pound :	80.0	80.6
Egyptian pound :	455.0	463.0
Lebanese pound :	120.2	121.0
U.A.E. dirham :	83.7	84.0

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Senate approves \$317r for Minuteman missile programme

WASHINGTON, May 28 (AFP) — The Senate today approved credits of 317 million dollars for production of 60 nuclear-tipped Minuteman missiles during the next fiscal year, beginning October 1.

The vote, 49 to 35, met a request made by President Ford less than a month ago. The Senate overrode opposition from Democratic Senators Edward Kennedy (Massachusetts) and Alan Cranston (California), who objected that Mr. Ford's request had not been included in the administration's initial budget request for the Pentagon.

They pointed out that the president's suggestion had been made during the presidential campaign, which has seen the president's adversary for the Republican nomination, former California Governor Ronald Reagan, attack Mr. Ford for allegedly letting American defences slip.

Shah: oil price illogical

TEHRAN, May 27 (R) — The Shah of Iran said in an interview published here today that the price of oil must be directly linked to the cost of developing other sources of energy.

"Why should the price of our oil, which will run out in about 30 years or more, be comparatively lower than coal, while we all know that this precious substance yields more than 70,000 derivatives?"

"If we use oil only to gain its derivatives, its value will rise almost 100 times," the Shah said in the interview with Mr. Reza Mubammad Lari, editor of the Saudi Arabian newspaper Oikaz. King Khaled of Saudi Arabia is on a state visit to Iran.

The Shah said the prices of goods Iran bought from the industrialised countries had increased several hundred per cent. Worldwide inflation continued to eat into the purchasing power of oil revenues.

U.S. steel industry against big government

WASHINGTON, May 27 (AFP) — The United-States steel industry has joined the adversaries here of "big government" intervention in the American economy.

Philip Noell, president of the Cyclops Company which is a large specialty steels firm, and Murray Weidenbaum, secretary of an economic research body, drew applause at a steelmen's conference when they attacked growing federal government control over business.

Linking business freedom to individual freedom, Mr. Noell said the government was driving firms to bankruptcy with excessive regulations.

It was also sapping the independence of consumers by raising taxes. It was additionally devoting 50 per cent of the budget to paternalistic spending that ensured equality of results but not equality of opportunity.

Mr. Weidenbaum said the Americans, both companies and private individuals, each spent 131 million hours filling in government forms.

The public was paying for excessive regulations, he said.

Advocates of the move would make it possible to the Minuteman production in operation, while a Soviet Union would give the Soviet Union an advantage in facilities for rocket production.

Syria may cut development budget

BEIRUT, May 27, (R) — has sliced more than one off its ambitious 1976 after Iraq stopped pumping and Saudi Arabia halted air advantage in facilities for rocket production.

The cut will deal a blow at Syrian development, the sources said.

President Hafez Al Assad cited his determination not forced into a position where he could dictate his policy.

The budget will drop from about 16,000 million Syrian (about 2,000 million sterling) around 10,000 million (1,250 million), the figure earmarked for development sources said.

No details are available on the cuts will be applied, but are expected to fall most heavily on the development programme. Syria has now started receiving Saudi oil at roughly half the world price, which would offset the deficit, according to oil sources here.

IMF wants Portugal to devalue currency

LISBON, May 27 (AFP) — International Monetary Fund (IMF) is putting pressure on Portuguese government to devalue the escudo by a substantial amount, the conservative newspaper reported today citing reliable Swiss banking sources.

The devaluation could be 35 per cent, and the IMF warning this as a condition for resuming its line of credit paper said.

The Portuguese authorities themselves convinced that currency needed devaluation they were only wondering to carry this out.

The IMF wanted the move made by the end of June, possible and in October at the latest.

The measure would be accompanied by a strict austerity tempo said.

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Australia set on new course — destination unknown

proves man

Advocates of the new course would make the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health... The new course would be a radical departure from the old one... The new course would be a radical departure from the old one... The new course would be a radical departure from the old one...

that can carry 200 tons each, and sending it off to Japan in an endless metallic stream...

The miners return to air-conditioned, fully furnished, three-bedroom homes that rent for \$10 a week.

This is a country with growing self-awareness and new self-confidence. Government officials, long accustomed to following first the British and then the American lead abroad, are themselves being buttonholed by foreign diplomats wanting to know the Australian line for soon-to-be-held conferences on iron, copper, nickel and bauxite.

Australia speaks as both a key producer of raw materials and as a full-fledged industrial and consumer power feeling its way in a world that badly needs the mineral (and food) riches that it now must manage with increasing skill—yet remains dependent on capital and technology from abroad.

But there are other scenes here, indicating some of the hurdles ahead: Forty or more ships pitch and toss on two oceans waiting to enter Australian ports suddenly closed by a dock workers' strike... Airline passengers are delayed, or kept home, by ground-crew strikes...

Whitlam be successfully trimmed and shaped to fit the still basically conservative national mood?

The new prime minister, tall, dour, Oxford-educated Malcolm Fraser, makes it clear that the country must slow down.

Public spending under Mr Whitlam doubled. Inflation is 15 per cent; unemployment still hovers at 4 1/2 per cent—in a country that long considered even 1 per cent too high.

Mr Fraser, appearing relaxed for an interview in his spacious office in Parliament House, his feet propped on a table, is positive that Australians need less central government (at times he sounded like a U.S. presidential candidate), less public spending, more self-reliance.

Abroad, he said, they need to be more wary of Soviet actions in the Indian Ocean, and they need closer ties with Washington—but at the same time need a determination to hew their own course as an independent country and not as an acolyte of anyone else.

Defensively, Australia's best weapon is its remoteness. Its own armed forces are tiny (the army, for instance, has only 31,000 men to defend 3 million square miles). It must rely on Washington (although Mr. Fraser said he worries

whether Congress will support the President abroad) and on indications that past confrontations with northern neighbour Indonesia show no early signs of returning.

Although other potential dangers seem 10 years or more away, more long-range planning clearly is called for.

A bare four months in office, Mr Fraser is still sorting out the details of what he wants to do. In August he will submit his budget—be warns that it will be a tough one—and he has a 3-to-1 majority in the House of Representatives to ensure that he can win passage.

He also has a working majority in the Senate, unlike Mr Whitlam before him, who was dismissed from office last November by the governor-general for lack of control of the upper house.

Mr Fraser will by no means dismantle all the changes begun by the mercurial Mr. Whitlam. The national health programme, called Medibank, remains. So do the outlines of the Labour government's independent-style foreign policy.

But the new prime minister sees Australians as basically conservative, and he appears to be right. Federal elections are won—and lost—in the endless suburbs of Sydney and Melbourne, where almost half the population lives.

The "Australian dream" is still largely a brick home, a car, a television set, and, for diversion, the pub, horse races, cricket, soccer, and the beach.

The food here is good. So is the weather. It is a climate that can frustrate sudden change, as the intellectual Mr. Whitlam discovered.

Also basic to the Australian character is this contradiction: a general obedience to the law (where else in the world, one wonders, is a compulsory auto seat belt law so routinely followed?) but with dislike of authority—as represented by the police or by the boss at work.

Still to be tested fully is Prime Minister Fraser's ability to get along with the trade unions.

Despite the Labour Party loss last December that brought Mr. Fraser to office, the unions retain much power, and their most prominent figure (Robert Hawke, president of the Australian Council of Trade Unions) is widely considered to be the likely successor to Mr. Whitlam.

Strikes here are an ever-present problem. They are mainly orchestrated by individual unions that are controlled by hard-working



The "Coothanger" bridge and the angular Sydney Opera House are seen in this view of Sydney Harbour.

Zealand, Canada, and South Africa. Australian policy today is to encourage those with needed skills (mainly Britons) to come and to allow dependent parents and children under 18 to join family members already in Australia (most are Europeans).

No early change in the policy is in sight, although immigration will continue.

Without it, according to the latest estimates, the country's population will begin to decrease—already the birth rate is falling steadily—and the average age would rise to 43 by the year 2000. With migration, the average age is expected to be held to 23.

In the meantime, other nationalities keep coming. Americans arrive at a rate of just under 4,000 a year. Overall, they number about 40,000.

But although this huge continent is anchored just off the overcrowded lands of Indonesia, the Philippines, and Malaysia—and although it now counts Japan as its biggest trading partner—Australia has taken in relatively few Asians.

Officials say that the days of "white Australia" are gone. But there are only about 5,000 Japanese officially listed as living here. There are 30,000 Indians and almost as many Arabs, but fewer than 10,000 Indonesians.

Nor does there seem to be much general awareness of the cultures and languages of Asia. But senior advisers to the Prime Minister are publicly calling for greater efforts to understand the Japanese, and the major universities offer many more courses in Asian studies now than they did 20 years ago.

The high schools, too, have begun classes in Japanese and Indonesian.

Today Australia is a rich, diverse nation. It went too long without change in the late 1950s and '60s; then the hurricane that was the Whitlam years ran head on into worldwide inflation and recession. Now Mr. Fraser is bent upon a steadier growth.

This is a land of enormous promise—and increasing maturity. The big challenges lie ahead.

British migrant shop stewards who take advantage of the average worker's apathy and anti-bossism.

Mr. Fraser wants secret balloting in union affairs, but until he can get such a law through Parliament, local union affairs are controlled by a show of hands—with the clear threat of discrimination against those whose hands stay down.

On a recent two-week visit, this correspondent found most people he talked with genuinely concerned at the rate prices were going up, worried about Mr. Whitlam's attempt to centralize government in a system in which the states retain significant power, upset at the former prime minister's efforts to raise huge sums of money for unspecified purposes outside the Constitution—and quite ready to see what Mr. Fraser can do.

Meanwhile, one of the biggest changes in Australian society is the impact of post-war migration from the United Kingdom and Southern Europe. More than a million Britons, Scots, and Irish live here today, along with 300,000 Italians, almost 200,000 Greeks, and 150,000 Yugoslavs.

About one Australian in four was born overseas, and now the first generation of migrants' children is growing up. These youngsters speak better English than their fathers—and much better than their mothers, who tend to hang back both at home and in their own communities and do not learn English well.

The Labour government drastically cut back migration in 1974 as inflation and joblessness rose. In the 1969-70 fiscal year some 180,000 migrants arrived, about half of them British. By 1975 the figure had dropped to 49,200, with only 32 per cent of them British.

Overall, British migration in the last four years is down 66 per cent.

The Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs, Michael MacKellar, blames the Labour government's anti-British actions (for instance, changing the national anthem away from "God save the Queen" and trying to drum up support for changing the national flag, which includes the British Union Jack) for helping to divert many British emigrants to New

Zealand, Canada, and South Africa.

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In the style of his aboriginal ancestors, Mornington Islander Norman Calvert fashions a boomerang.



A baby kangaroo from a sanctuary near Perth.

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